

Each conference session will start with a lecture on a relevant aspect of the life and ideas of Walter Rodney, followed by morning and afternoon panel sessions. Each presentation should be planned to last not more than 20 minutes.

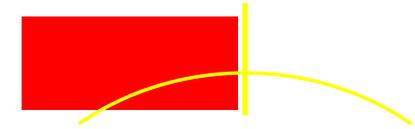
Paper and lecture proposals about any of the above-mentioned themes can be submitted in English or Spanish in not more than 300 words with the following information: title, name, nationality and institutional affiliation of the author; abstract and 5 key words. The submissions should be sent electronically to **afroamerica@casa.cult.cu** before August 30, 2017. Notification of acceptance to present at the International Colloquium “Celebrating the Life and Thoughts of Walter Rodney” will be sent not later than October 2, 2017.

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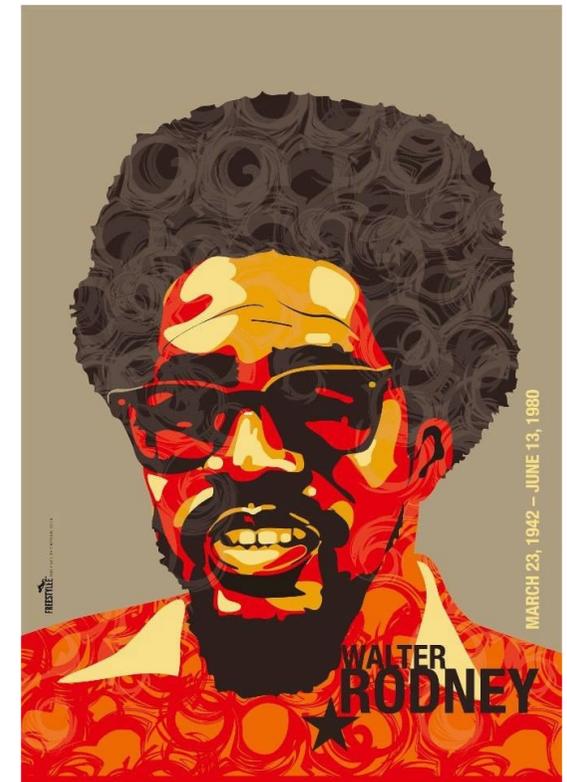
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International Colloquium “Celebrating the Life and Thoughts of Walter Rodney”



Call for Papers
Havana, December 4-5, 2017



Walter Rodney (1942-1980) was a noted international scholar who was trained at the University of the West Indies. Born in Guyana in 1942, Rodney received a scholarship to UWI, received a first class degree in History and proceeded to do his doctoral work at the University of London, School of African and Oriental Studies. After completing his PhD in African History, he taught in Jamaica and Tanzania before returning to Guyana in 1974. His book ***How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*** remains a classic in colonial and post-colonial politics and economics. His writings on the questions of self-mobilization and the emancipation of working peoples distinguished him in an era when the energies of the peoples of the Caribbean were directed towards conceptualizing a new society.

In March 2017, Walter Rodney would have been 75 years old, had he not met an unnatural death on June 13, 1980 in Guyana. Since his passing there were calls for clarification of the circumstances of his death and in 2014, a Commission of Inquiry was formed. The Commission issued a Report in 2016 that found that the Guyana Government was directly involved in Walter Rodney's assassination.

The work of the Walter Rodney Foundation has been geared to alerting a younger generation to the ideas and philosophies of Walter Rodney. It is in this spirit of progressive revolutionary change that the Casa de las Américas, the Walter Rodney Foundation, and the Justice for Walter Rodney Committee will join efforts in this call for a special celebration of the life and work of Walter Rodney to be held on Decem-

ber 4-5, 2017 in Havana, Cuba.

This Call for Papers is seeking abstracts and papers from scholars who have worked on the themes of the Caribbean philosophies of independent radical thinking, Walter Rodney and the question of enslavement. The objective of the two-day colloquium will be to: "bring together women, men and youth from grassroots organizations and academia in Cuba, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and beyond who share Rodney's core principles to examine today's social, economic and political environment, and to renew our commitment to the struggle for another world." Walter Rodney's main arenas of struggle and work were in Guyana, Jamaica and the rest of the Caribbean, Europe and Africa. He also lectured extensively in the United States. The core principles of the colloquium are to re-examine and renew commitment to anti-imperialism, anti-colonialism, social transformation, peace, sovereignty and unity of the Caribbean region; the multi-racial unity of the working peoples and the self-activity of the working people.

The declared objectives of the symposium of the life of Walter Rodney are to:

1. Remember Walter and what he fought for, and to introduce him to new generations.
2. Promote and extend Rodney's ideas, the method of enquiry that shaped them, and their application to the tactics and strategy of creating another world.
3. Draw out the implications for current politics from the direction Rodney took over 37 years ago.

4. Examine Rodney's work, especially *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* as a primer to discuss and share knowledge on the current widening of the inequality gap between rich and poor countries, and between the *nouveau riche* and the mass of working peoples of Africa, the Caribbean, Latin and Central America, Asia, North America, and Europe.

To examine Rodney's ideas on the connection between race and class, and how race is embedded in class. Basically what lessons are there to be learnt from the ways in which racial, ethnic, and other tensions act as a brake to unity and hence the struggle for social and reparative justice.

With these objectives in mind, we call for a critical dialogue about the following topics:

- Walter Rodney's reflections on slavery and Caribbean history
- Walter Rodney as a historian
- Walter Rodney and the working class
- Walter Rodney and Rastafari
- Walter Rodney's Panafricanism
- Walter Rodney and the ideas of socialism and communism
- Walter Rodney and the Cuban Revolution
- Race and class in Walter Rodney
- The assassination of Walter Rodney

It is in this spirit that we seek to fully engage with each other so that as we reflect on the life of Rodney. The celebration of life of Dr. Walter Rodney will also be an affirmation of support for progressive forces internationally who believe another world is possible.